

A TALE OF TWO CITIES

The year is 1775 and in a room above a wine-shop in Paris sits a white-haired man, busy making shoes. For eighteen years he was a prisoner in the Bastille. Now he is a free man, but he does not know his name, or recognize his friends. He knows only that he must go on making shoes.

In a coach driving into Paris sits Lucie, the daughter he has never seen. Lucie takes her father back to London

and with her love and care, he forgets the past and learns to live again as a free man.

But in the stormy years of the French Revolution, the past is neither dead, nor forgotten. And soon its dangerous secrets pull Lucie and the people she loves back to Paris ... where that terrible machine of death, the Guillotine, waits hungrily for the enemies of France.



OXFORD BOOKWORMS LIBRARY

Classics

A Tale of Two Cities

Stage 4 (1400 headwords)

Series Editor: Jennifer Bassett

Founder Editor: Tricia Hedge

Activities Editors: Jennifer Bassett and Alison Baxter



CHARLES DICKENS

A Tale of Two Cities

Retold by

Ralph Mowat

OXFORD UNIVERSITY PRESS

OXFORD

UNIVERSITY PRESS

Great Clarendon Street, Oxford oxz 6DP

Oxford University Press is a department of the University of Oxford.

It furthers the University's objective of excellence in research, scholarship.

CONTENTS

and education by publishing worldwide in

Oxford New York

Auckland Cape Town Dares Salaam Hong Kong Karachi

Kuala Lumpur Madrid Melbourne Mexico City Nairobi

New Delhi Shanghai Taipei Toronto

STORY 11\TRODUCTION:>

With offices in

Argentina Austria Brazil Chile Czech Republic France Greece

Guatemala Hungary Italy Japan Poland Portugal Singapore

The road to Paris- 1775

South Korea Switzerland Thailand Thrkey Ukraine Vietnam

A wine-shop in Paris

4

OXFORD and OXFORD ENGLISH are registered trade marks of

2

Oxford University Press in the UK and in certain other countries

This simplified edition © Oxford University Press 2000

3 A trial in London- 1780

8

Database right Oxford University Press (maker)

First published in Oxford Bookworms 1994

10 12 14 16 17 15 13 11 9

4 The Marquis of Evremonde

15

No unauthorized photocopying

All rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored

5 Two men speak of love

21

in a retrieval system, or transmitted, in any form or by any means,

without the prior permission in writing of Oxford University Press,

or as expressly permitted by law, or under terms agreed with the appropriate

6 Stormy years in France

28

reprographics rights organization. Enquiries concerning reproduction

outside the scope of the above should be sent to the ELT Rights Department.

Oxford University Press, at the address above

7 A call for help

35

You must not circulate this book in any other binding or cover
and you must impose this same condition on any acquirer

8 In the hands of the citizens

40

Any websites referred to in this publication are in the public domain and their
addresses are provided by Oxford University Press for information only.

Oxford University Press disclaims any responsibility for the content

9 The spy

49

ISBN-I]: 978 0 19 423047 6

ISBN-10: 0 19 423047 3

10 The secret paper

54

Printed in Spain by Unigraf S.L

Illustrated by: Mark Hargreaves

11 Madame Defarge's revenge

59

12 A change of clothes

63

13 The last goodbyes

67

GLOSSARY

74

ACTIVITIES: Before Reading 76

ACTIVITIES: While Reading 77

ACTIVITIES: After Reading

80

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

84

ABOUT BOOKWORMS

85



I

The road to Paris - 1775

It was the best of times, it was the worst of times. It was the season of light, it was the season of darkness. It was the spring of hope, it was the winter of sadness. It was the year one thousand seven hundred and seventy-five.

In France there was a King and a Queen, and in England there was a King and a Queen. They believed that nothing would ever change. But in France things were bad, and getting worse. The people were poor, hungry and unhappy. The King made paper money and spent it, and the people had nothing to eat. Behind closed doors in the homes of the people, voices spoke in whispers against the King and his noblemen; they were only whispers, but they were the angry whispers of desperate people.

Late one November night, in that same year 1775, a coach going from London to Dover stopped at the top of a long hill. The horses were tired, but as they rested, the driver heard

The road to Paris- 1775

A Tale of Two Cities

another horse coming fast up the hill behind them. The news about my poor father's money. He died so long rider stopped his horse beside the coach and shouted: ago - before I was born. What is this story you want to 'I want a passenger, Mr Jarvis Lorry, from Tellson's tell me?'

Bank in

'About twenty years ago, Miss Manette, a French London.'

doctor married an English lady. They had a daughter, but 'I am Mr Jarvis Lorry,' said one of the passengers, just before she was born, her father disappeared. putting his head out of the window. 'What do you Nobody knew what had happened to him. Not long want?'

afterwards his unhappy wife died, and their daughter 'It's me! Jerry, Jerry Cruncher, from Tellson's Bank, was brought back to England.'

sir,' cried the man on the horse.

'But this is like my father's story, Mr Lorry. And

'What's the matter, Jerry?' called Mr Lorry.

wasn't it

'A message for you, Mr Lorry. You've got to wait at
you who brought me back to England?'

Dover for a young lady.'

'Yes, that's true, Miss Manette. Many years ago I

'Very well, Jerry,' said Mr Lorry. 'Tell them my answer
brought you from France to England, and Tellson's
is CAME BACK TO LIFE.'

Bank has taken care of you since then. You were told

It was a strange message, and a stranger answer. No
that your father had died. But think, Miss Manette.

one in

Perhaps your father wasn't dead. Perhaps he was in
the coach understood what they meant.

prison. Not because he had done something



The road to Paris- 1775

A Tale of Two Cities

The next day Mr Lorry was sitting in his hotel in Dover when a young lady arrived. She was pretty, with golden hair and blue eyes, and Mr Lorry remembered a small child, almost a baby. He had carried her in his arms when he came from Calais to Dover, from France to England, many years ago. Mr Lorry asked the young lady to sit down.

'Miss Manette,' he said. 'I have a strange story to tell

you, about one of the customers of Tellson's Bank.

That's where I work.'

'Yes, but I don't quite understand, Mr Lorry,' said

the young lady. 'I received a message from Tellson's

Bank, asking

me to come here to meet you. I understood there was some *'What is this story you want to tell me?'*

2

3

A witu?-shop in Paris

A Tale of Two Cities

came in and his wife looked at him, then turned her

eyes to look at two new customers, a man of about

wrong! But just because he had a powerful enemy- an

sixty and a young lady. Defarge went over to speak to

enemy with the power to send him to prison and to

them, suddenly kissed the

keep him there, hidden and forgotten, for eighteen

years!'

young lady's hand, and led them out of the back of the shop.

'Can it be true? Is it possible that my father is still

alive?' Lucie Manette stared at Mr Lorry. Her face was white and her hands trembled. 'It will be his ghost-not him!'

'No, Miss Manette,' said Mr Lorry gently. 'He is alive, but he has changed very much. Even his name had been forgotten! And we must ask no questions about the past, no questions at all. It would be too dangerous. He has been taken to the house of an old servant in Paris, and we are going there to bring him back to life.'

2

A wine-shop in Paris

In the part of Paris called Saint Antoine everyone was poor. The streets were narrow and dirty, the food-shops were almost empty. The faces of the children looked old already, because they were so hungry. In the wine-shop of Monsieur Defarge there were not many customers and Defarge was outside, talking to a man in the street. His wife, Madame Defarge, sat inside the shop, knitting and watching. Defarge



A witu?-shop in Paris

A Tale of Two Cities

4

5

Madame Defarge sat inside the

wine-shop, knitting and watching.

They followed him upstairs, many stairs, until they reached the top. Defarge took a key out of his pocket.

'Why is the door locked?' asked Mr Lorry in surprise. 'He is a free man now.'

'Because he has lived too long behind a locked door,'

replied Defarge angrily. 'He is afraid if the door is not locked!'

A wine-shop in Paris

A Tale of Two Cities

That is one of the things they have done to him.'

looked at it, and then he looked at Lucie's hair. 'It is the

'I'm afraid, too,' whispered Miss Manette. Her blue

same. How can it be?' He stared into Lucie's face. 'No,

eyes looked worriedly at Mr Lorry. 'I am afraid of him

no, you are too young, too

- of my father.'

young.'

Defarge made a lot of noise as he opened the door.

Mr Lorry and Lucie went into the room behind him. A

thin, white haired man was sitting on a wooden seat. He was very busy, making shoes.

'Good day,' said Defarge. 'You are still working hard, I see.' After a while they heard a whisper. 'Yes, I am still working.'

'Come,' said Defarge. 'You have a visitor. Tell him your name.'

'My name?' came the whisper. 'One Hundred and Five, North Tower.'

Mr Lorry moved closer to the old man. 'Dr Manette, don't you remember me, Jarvis Lorry?' he asked gently. The old prisoner looked up at Mr Lorry, but there was no surprise, no understanding in his tired face, and he went back to work making shoes.

Slowly Lucie came near to the old man. After a while he noticed her.

'Who are you?' he asked.

Lucie put her arms around the old man and held him, tears of happiness and sadness running down her face.

From a little bag the old man took some golden hair. He



A wine-shop in Paris

A Tale of Two Cities

still did not understand, but he seemed to like the sound of Lucie's voice and the touch of her warm young hand on his.

Then Lucie said to Mr Lorry, 'I think we should leave Paris

at once. Can you arrange it?'

'Yes, of course,' said Mr Lorry. 'But do you think he is able to travel?'

'He will be better far away from this city where he has lost so much of his life,' said Lucie.

'You are right,' said Defarge. 'And there are many

Lucie put her arms around the old man

other reasons why Dr Manette should leave France and held him.

now.'

While Mr Lorry and Defarge went to arrange for a

Through her tears Lucie tried to explain that she

coach to

was the daughter he had never seen. The old man

take them out of Paris, Lucie sat with her father.

Exhausted by

7

6

A Tale of Two Cities

A tunnel in London - 1780

the meeting, he fell asleep on the floor, and his

Lorry. Trials at the Old Bailey were usually for very

daughter watched him quietly and patiently until it

dangerous criminals, and the prisoner that morning

was time to go.

was a young man of about twenty-five, well dressed

When Mr Lorry returned, he and Defarge

and quite calm.

brought food and clothes for Dr Manette. The

'What's he done?' Jerry asked the doorman quietly.

Doctor did everything they told him to do; he had

'He's a spy! A French spy!' the doorman told him. 'He

been used to obeying orders for so many years. As he

came down the stairs, Mr Lorry heard him say again

and again, 'One Hundred and Five, North Tower.'

When they went to the coach, only one person saw

them go: Madame Defarge. She stood in the doorway,

and knitted and watched, seeing everything ... and

seeing nothing.

3

A trial in London - 1780

Tellson's Bank in the City of London was an old,

dark, and ugly building. It smelt of dust and old

papers, and the people who worked there all seemed

old and dusty, too. Outside the building sat Jerry

Cruncher, who carried messages for people in the bank.

One morning in March 1780, Jerry had to go to the Old

Bailey to collect an important message from Mr

A Tale of Two Cities

A tnnl in London - 1780

travels from England to France and tells the French

He was an honest man, he said, and proud to be an

King secret information about our English army.'

Englishman. Yes, he was, or had been, a friend of the

'What'll happen if he's guilty?' asked Jerry.

prisoner's. And in the prisoner's pockets he had seen

'Oh, he'll have to die, no question of that,' replied

important plans and lists about the English armies.

the doorman enthusiastically. 'They'll hang him.'

No, of course he had not put the lists there himself.

'What's his name?'

And no, he was not a spy himself, he was not

'Darnay, Charles Darnay. Not an English name, is it?'

someone paid to make traps for innocent people.

While Jerry waited, he looked around at the crowd
Next the young lady spoke. She said that she had
inside the Old Bailey and noticed a young lady of about
met the prisoner on the boat which had carried her and
twenty years, and her father, a gentleman with very
her father from France to England. 'He was very good
white hair. The young lady seemed very sad when she
and kind to my father and to me,' she said.

looked at the prisoner, and held herself close to her

'Was he travelling alone on the ship?'

father.

'No, he was with two French gentlemen.'

Then the trial began, and the first person who spoke

'Now, Miss Manette, did you see him show

against

them any papers, or anything that looked like a list?'

Charles Darnay was called John Barsad.

8

9

A Tale of Two Cities

A trial in London - 1780

'No, I didn't see anything like that.'

Questions, questions, questions! The trial went on,

A Tale of Two Cities

A trial in London - 1780

and finally, a small, red-haired man spoke. He told the judge that he had seen Mr Damay at a hotel in a town where there were many soldiers and ships. Then one of the lawyers, a man called Sydney Carton, wrote some words on a piece of paper, and gave it to Mr Stryver, the lawyer who was speaking for Mr Damay.

'Are you quite sure that the prisoner is the man you saw?'

Mr Stryver asked the red-haired man.

'Quite sure,' said the man.

'Have you ever seen anyone like the prisoner?' asked Mr Stryver.

'I'd always be able to recognize him.' The red-haired man was very confident.

'Then I must ask you to look at the gentleman over there,' said Mr Stryver, pointing to Sydney Carton. 'Don't you think that he is very like the prisoner?'

Everyone in the court could see that Sydney Carton and

Charles Darnay were indeed very similar.

'Well then,' said Mr Stryver, 'it is so easy to find a man like the prisoner that we can even find one in this room. So how can you be so sure that it was the prisoner you saw in that hotel?'

And the red-haired man said not another word.

The lawyers talked and argued, and when at last the trial came to an end, Jerry Cruncher had fallen asleep.

But Mr Lorry woke him up and gave him a piece of paper.

'NOT GUILTY' were the words written on it, and Jerry

A Tale of Two Cities

A trial in London - 1780

hurried back to Tellson's Bank with the message.

'I must ask you to look at the gentleman over there.'

10

11

A Tale of Two Cities

A trial in London - 1780

Sydney Carton seemed to be a man who did not care

there was dislike, even fear in his eyes. 'My father,'
about anyone or anything. He was Mr Stryver's
said Lucie softly, putting her hand on his arm, 'shall
assistant. In fact, he did most of the real work for Mr
we go home now?'

Stryver. Stryver was good at speaking at a trial, but
'Yes,' he answered slowly.

he was not good at discovering important facts and
Soon they drove off in a coach, and then Mr Stryver
details, especially when these details were hidden in a
and Mr

lot of papers. Every night Carton studied the many
Lorry walked away, leaving Mr Damay and Mr
papers that lawyers have to read, and he wrote down
Carton alone.

the questions which Stryver should ask at the next
'It must be strange for you,' said Carton, 'to be a
free man

day's trial. And every day Stryver asked these
questions, and people thought how clever he was.

Outside the Old Bailey Mr Damay, now a free man,

met his

friends: Dr Manette and his daughter Lucie, Mr Jarvis

Lorry,

Mr Stryver, and Mr

Carton.

Dr Manette no longer looked like the man in the room above Defarge's wine-shop five years ago. His hair was white, but his eyes were bright and he stood straight and strong. Sometimes his face became dark and sad when he remembered the years in the Bastille prison; at these times only his daughter Lucie, whom he loved so much, could help him.

As they stood there talking, a strange expression came over

Dr Manette's face. He was staring at Charles Darnay, but he did not seem to see him. For a few moments

A Tale of Two Cities

A train in London - 1780

again, and to be standing here, talking to a man who wine and

looks just like you. Let us go out and eat together.'

looked at himself in the mirror. He was angry because

After they had eaten, Carton said softly, 'How sad

Damay looked so much like him, but was so

and

different. Carton knew that he was a clever lawyer, and

worried Miss Manette was for you today! She's

that he was a good and honest man, but he had never

a very beautiful young woman, don't you think?'

been successful for himself. He drank too much, and

Damay did not reply to what Carton had said,

but he

his life was unhappy and friendless. His cleverness

thanked him for his help at the

and his hard work in the law only made others, like Mr

trial.

Stryver, successful and rich. He remembered Lucie

'I don't want your thanks,' replied Carton. 'I

Manette's worried face when she watched Damay in

have done nothing. And I don't think I like you.'

court.

'Well,' said Damay, 'you have no reason to like me.

'If I changed places with Damay,' he whispered to

But I

himself,

hope that you will allow me to pay the bill for

'would those blue eyes of Miss Manette look at me, in

both of us.'

the same way? No, no, it's too late now.'

'Of course. And as you are paying for me, I'll have

He drank another bottle of wine and fell asleep.

another bottle of wine.'

In a quiet street not far away was the house

After Damay had left, Carton drank some more

where Dr

Manette and Lucie lived. They had one servant, Miss Pross,

12

13



A Tale of Two Cities

who had taken care of

Lucie since she was a

The Marquis 4

child. Miss Pross had

s of Evremonde

red hair and a quick,

sharp

voice,

and

The Marquis of Evremonde was a disappointed man.

seemed at first sight a

He had waited for hours at the palace of the King of

very alarming person.

France, but the King had not spoken to him. Angrily,

But everybody knew

the Marquis got into his coach and told the driver to

that she was in fact a

take him home. Very soon the coach was driving

warm-hearted

fast out of Paris, and the people in the narrow

and unselfish friend,

streets had to run to get out of the way, if they could.

who

would

do

At the corner of a street in Saint Antoine, one of the

anything to guard her

coach wheels hit something, and the people in the

darling Lucie from

Miss Pross seemed at first

street screamed loudly. The horses were frightened and

sight a very alarming

trouble or danger.

person.

stopped.

Dr Manette was

'What has gone wrong?' asked the Marquis calmly,

looking

now well enough to

out of the window of the coach. A tall man had picked

work as a doctor, and

something up from under the feet of the horses and
he, Lucie, and Miss
was crying loudly over it.

Pross led a quiet,
comfortable life.

'Why is that man making that terrible noise?' asked the
Mr

Lorry, who had become a close family friend, came

'Nobody is good enough for my darling Lucie,' she

regularly to the house, and in the months after the

told Mr Lorry one day, 'and I don't like all these

trial, Mr Darnay and Mr Carton were also frequent

hundreds of visitors.' Mr Lorry had a very high opinion

visitors. This did not please Miss Pross at all, who

of Miss Pross, but he wasn't brave enough to argue that

always looked very cross when they came.

two visitors were not 'hundreds'.

A Tale of Two Cities

Nobody argued with Miss Pross if they could

Marquis impatiently.

avoid it.

'I'm sorry, Monsieur the Marquis. It is his child,' said one of the people.

'Dead! Killed!' screamed the man.

The people in the street came close to the coach and looked at the Marquis with stony, silent faces. The Marquis looked back at them in bored dislike. To him, they were no more than animals.

'I can't understand,' he said coldly, 'why you people cannot

take care of yourselves and your children. I hope my horses are

15

A Tale of Two Cities

The Marquis of Evremonde

not hurt.' And he threw a gold coin to his driver. 'Give

At the corner there now stood a large, dark-haired

this to that man!

woman, knitting. She stared long and hard at the face

'Dead!' shouted the father of the child again.

of the Marquis, **but** he did not look at her, and drove

Another man came forward. 'Be brave, Gaspard.

on.

Your child has died quickly, and without pain. It is
Later that day, as the sun was going down, the same
better to die like that than to go on living in these
coach stopped in a village near the Marquis's castle.
terrible times.'

Several villagers, in poor thin clothes, with thin
'You are a sensible man,' said the Marquis from his
hungry faces, were standing in the village square. The
coach.

Marquis looked at their faces and then pointed to one
'What is your name?'
of them.

'They call me Defarge.'

'Bring that man to me,' he said to his driver.

'This is for you,' said the Marquis, and he threw
The man came up to the coach, hat in hand, and
Defarge another gold coin. 'Drive on,' he called to his
the other villagers moved closer to listen.
driver.

Just as the coach was leaving, a coin was thrown
back in through the window. The Marquis looked

A Tale of Two Cities

The Marquis of Evremonde

a very strange way. Why was that?'

'Dead!' shouted the father of the child.

16

17

}

A Tale of Two Cities

The Marquis of Evremonde

'Monsieur,

'Where is

I was

he now?

looking at

What

the man,'

happened

came the

to him?'

reply.

'Oh, he ran

'What
away down
man?'
the hill
asked the
outside the
Marquis
village.'
angrily.
The
'The
man
Marquis
who
was
turned to
holding
on
speak to
another
under

your
man. This
coach,'
said
was
the poor man,
Monsieur
trembling
Gabelle, the
with fear.
Marquis's
official in the
'What was
village.
he like?'
'Gabelle,'
'Oh,
the Marquis
Monsieur, he
said,
'watch

was

white

out for this

from head to

man. If he

foot.

All

comes here,

covered with

put him in

dust. Just like

prison.'

a ghost.'

When the

for a long

that it once

d

had.'

Marquis

time,' said

o

arrived at
the Marquis,
u
b
his castle, he
with
his
t
asked if his
cold, polite
l
nephew,
smile.
e
Monsieur
'T've had
s
Charles, had
many
s
arrived from

problems in

s

England.

England.

e

'Not yet,

Perhaps

n

sir,' replied

because of

d

the servant,

you,'

m

but as the

Darnay said

e

Marquis

to his uncle.

was eating

'I was in

t

his dinner,

great

o

he heard the

danger.'

p

sound of a

'No, no, I

r

coach

had nothing

i

outside.

to do with

s

o

Soon

his

your

n

nephew

problems,'

,

entered the

replied the

,

room.

In

Marquis

s

England he

coldly.

a

was known

'Unfortunate

i

as Charles

ly,

our

d

Darnay.

family

no

'You've

longer has

D

a

been away

the power



r

children. If

'Yes.'

But you are

n

this

land

'Yes,' said

tired.

a

became

the Marquis

Goodnight,

y

.

mine,

I

with a secret

Charles. Sleep

'Possibly.

would give

smile on his

well. I shall

For the

it away, and

face. 'So, a

see you in the

good of

go and live

new way of

morning.'

our

life

begins.

family.'

somewhere

'The name

else.'

'You seem

of

our

to be very

family

is

fond of

England,

hated

although

everywhere

you are

not

in

France.

a rich man

We are hard,

there,' said

cruel

the

landowners.

Marquis. 'I

Our

believe you

miserable

know

people own

another

nothing.

Frenchman

They work
who has
for us night
found a
and day, but
safe home
they
don't
there. A

'If it still had that power, one

even

have

Doctor,

I

word from you would

enough food

believe?'

'You seem to be very fond of England,'

for

'Yes.'

said the Marquis.

themselves

'With a

1

and

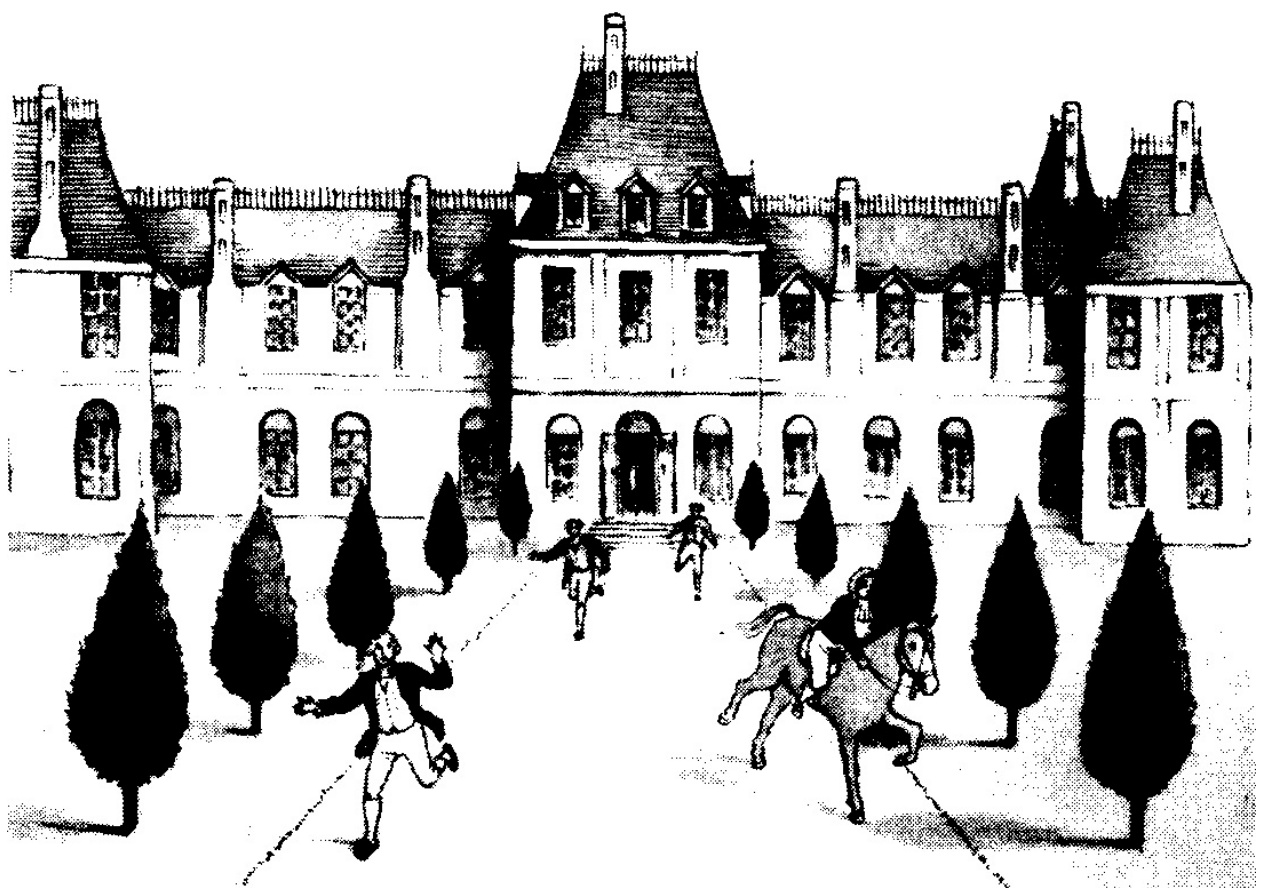
their

daughter?'

8

1

9



A Tale of Two Cities

After his nephew had gone to bed, the Marquis started their day's hard work. The people in the castle went to his room. The castle was surrounded with did not get up until later, but when they did, why did darkness. In the villages nearby the hungry people the great bell start ringing? Why did people run out dreamt of a better life, with enough good food to eat, of the castle to the village as fast as they could? and time to rest from their work.

Why did people run out of the castle to the village as fast as they could?

Early in the morning the dreamers awoke and The answer lay in the bed of the Marquis. He lay there, like stone, with a knife pushed into his heart.

On his chest lay a piece of paper with the words:

'Drive him fast to his grave. This is from JACQUES.'

A Tale of Two Cities

reason for this.

But one day in the summer he came to Dr Manette's

Two men 5

speaking of love

home in London. He knew that Lucie was out with Miss Pross, and he had decided to speak to her father.

Twelve months after the death of the Marquis in Dr Manette was now strong in body and mind, and France, Charles Darnay had become a successful teacher of French in London. He had known, when he came back to him often. When Darnay arrived, the Doctor came to London, that he would have to work hard to welcome him warmly.

earn his living, and he was successful. He was also in 'Dr Manette,' said Darnay, 'I know that Lucie is out. love. He had loved Lucie Manette from the time when But I

his life was in danger in the Old Bailey. He had never have come here today to speak to heard a sound so sweet as her gentle voice; he had you.'

never seen a face so beautiful as hers. But he had never

There was a silence. 'Do you want to speak to me spoken to her about his love. The death of his uncle about in France had become, over the twelve months, like a Lucie?' asked the Doctor, slowly.

dream to him, but he had said nothing to Lucie of 'Yes. Dear Dr Manette, I love your daughter dearly. his feelings, nor of what had happened. He had good If there was ever love in the world, I love Lucie.'

21

A Tale of Two Cities

Two men speak of love

'I believe you,' said Dr Manette sadly. 'It's very hard is, and why I am in England.'

for me to speak of her at any time, but I believe you,

'Stop!' said the Doctor. He had even put his hands

Charles Darnay. Have you spoken to Lucie about your over his

love?'

ears. 'I don't want to know. Tell me when I ask you. If Lucie

'No, never. I know how much your daughter means to you, Dr Manette. Her love for you, and your love for her, these are the greatest things in your life, and in hers. I love Lucie. With all my heart I love her. But I do not want to come between you and her. The two of you will never be separated because of me.'

For a moment Dr Manette turned his head away, and his eyes were full of fear, and pain. Then he looked back at Damay, and tried to smile.

'You have spoken very honestly, Charles,' he said.

'Have you any reason to believe that Lucie loves you?'

'None!'

'Then what do you want from me?'

'A promise. A promise that if Lucie ever tells you that she loves me, you will not speak against me, and will tell her what I have said. I know that she would never accept me if she believed that it would make you unhappy.'

'I can promise you more than that, Charles. If

Lucie ever

tells me that she loves you, I shall give her to you.'

'Thank you, Dr Manette,' said Damay, gratefully.

'There is one thing more. My name in England is not my real name. I want to tell you what my real name

A Tale of Two Cities

Two men speak of love

agrees to marry you, you shall tell me on the morning often, he usually said very little when he was there. of your marriage.'

One day in August he arrived when Dr Manette was

It was dark when Darnay left Dr Manette, and it was out and he was received by Lucie. She had always some

been a little shy with him, but on that day she noticed time later when Lucie and Miss Pross came home.

something different in his face.

'Father,' Lucie called, 'where are you?' She

'Aren't you well, Mr Carton?' she asked.

heard no answer, but there were strange sounds

'No, probably not, Miss Manette, but my way of coming from her father's bedroom. Frightened, she

life is not good for my health.'

ran upstairs and found her father, pale and silent, busy

'That seems sad,' said Lucie gently. 'Why do

at his old prison work of making shoes. The shadow

you not change your way of life?'

of the Bastille had fallen on him again. She took his

'It's too late for that. I shall never be better than I

arm and spoke gently to him, and together they

am. But, Miss Manette, there is something that I want

walked up and down for a long time until at last Dr

to say to you, but I find it so difficult. Will you listen to

Manette went quietly to bed.

me?'

'If it will help you, Mr Carton, I will be happy to

listen to

Although Mr Carton visited Dr Manette's house quite

you,' said Lucie, but she was pale and trembling.

22

23



A Tale of Two Cities

Two men speak of love

'Miss Manette, I know that you could never have feelings of love for me, a man who has spent his life so badly.'

'Even without my love, Mr Carton, can I not save you? Can

I not help you?'

'No, Miss Manette,' said Carton. 'Even if it was

possible for you to love me, it is too late for me. I would only make you sad, and destroy your life. But it has been a last dream of my heart. To see you and your father together, to see the home that you have made for him - this has brought back old and happier

'It has been a last dream of my heart.'

memories for me.'

'Can I do nothing to help you?' asked Lucie sadly.

'Only this, Miss Manette. Let me remember that I spoke to you of the feelings of my heart, and that you were kind and gentle towards me.'

,

A Tale of Two Cities

Two men speak of love

'Oh, Mr Carton. Try again to change.'

love.

'No, Miss Manette, it is too late. My bad habits will But you should know that for you, or for anyone close never change now. But tell me that you will never to you, I would do anything. Please remember always, speak of what I have said today, not to anyone, not

that there is a man who would give his life to keep
even to the person dearest to you.'

someone you love alive and close to you. Goodbye,
'Mr Carton,' said Lucie. 'This is your secret. No one
Miss Manette.'

will

ever know of it from

On the day of Lucie's marriage to Charles Darnay, Mr
me.'

Lorry and Miss Pross stood, with Lucie, outside the

'Thank you, Miss Manette. I shall never speak of this
door of Dr Manette's room. Inside, the Doctor and Mr
again. But in the hour of my death, it will be a happy

Darnay had been talking together for a long time.

memory for me that my last words of love were to

Soon it would be time to leave for the church. Lucie
you.'

looked very beautiful, and Mr Lorry watched her

Lucie had never heard Mr Carton speak like this

proudly. He talked about the day, so long ago, when

before. Tears came to her eyes as she thought of

he had brought Lucie, as a baby in his arms, from his hopeless, miserable life.

France to England. Miss Pross, too, had

'Don't cry,' said Sydney Carton. 'I am not worth your her memories and thought fondly of her brother Solomon. He

24

25

Two men speak of love

A Tale of Two Cities

had stolen money from her many years ago and she

But Dr Manette said nothing and worked on in

had never seen him since then, but she still loved him.

silence. Once again, he was a prisoner in the Bastille,

The door of the Doctor's room opened and he

without friends or family, without even a name of his

came out

own.

with Charles Darnay. The Doctor's face was white, but

For nine days and nine nights the shoemaker

he was calm. He took his daughter's arm and they

worked on,

went out to the waiting coach. The others followed leaving his table only to sleep, eat, or walk up and down his in a second coach and soon, in a nearby church, Lucie Manette and Charles Darnay were married. After the marriage Lucie and Charles came back to the house for breakfast, and then Lucie had to say goodbye to her father for two weeks - the first time they had not been together since his return from Paris.

When Lucie and Charles had left, Mr Lorry noticed a change in the Doctor. A little sadness was natural, but there was a lost, frightened look in the Doctor's eyes, which worried Mr Lorry very much. When he left to go to Tellson's Bank, he whispered to Miss Pross that he would return as quickly as he could.

Two hours later he hurried back to the house, and Miss Pross met him at the door.

'Oh, what shall we do, Mr Lorry?' she cried. 'He doesn't know me, and is making shoes again!'

Mr Lorry went up to the Doctor's room. 'Dr
Manette, my dear friend. Look at me. Don't you
remember me?'

'''

room. Mr Lorry sat with him night and day, talking

,

gently to

him from time to time, trying to bring his friend's

mind back

to the present.

For nine days and nine nights the shoemaker

worked on.

Then at last, on the tenth morning, the shoemaking
work was put away, and Dr Alexandre Manette, pale
but calm, was his old self again. Lucie was never told,
and in the quiet and happy years that followed her

\

J

J

marriage, Dr Manette remained

l.,

strong in mind and body.

26

Stormy years in France

6

'I first saw Gaspard,' said Jacques Five, 'holding on under the Marquis's coach as it drove into our village.

He ran away,

Stormy years in France

had sat making shoes. The three men who had left the wine-shop were waiting. Defarge spoke to them.

In Monsieur Defarge's wine-shop in Saint Antoine

'No names. You are Jacques One, Jacques Two customers came and went all the time. They came to and Jacques Three. I am Jacques Four. This is drink the thin, rough wine, but more often they came Jacques Five. He brings us news of our poor friend to listen and to talk, and to wait for news.

Gaspard, whose child was

One day there were more customers than usual.

Defarge

killed by the Marquis's coach a year ago.'

had been away for three days, and when he returned that morning, he brought a stranger with him, a man who repaired roads.

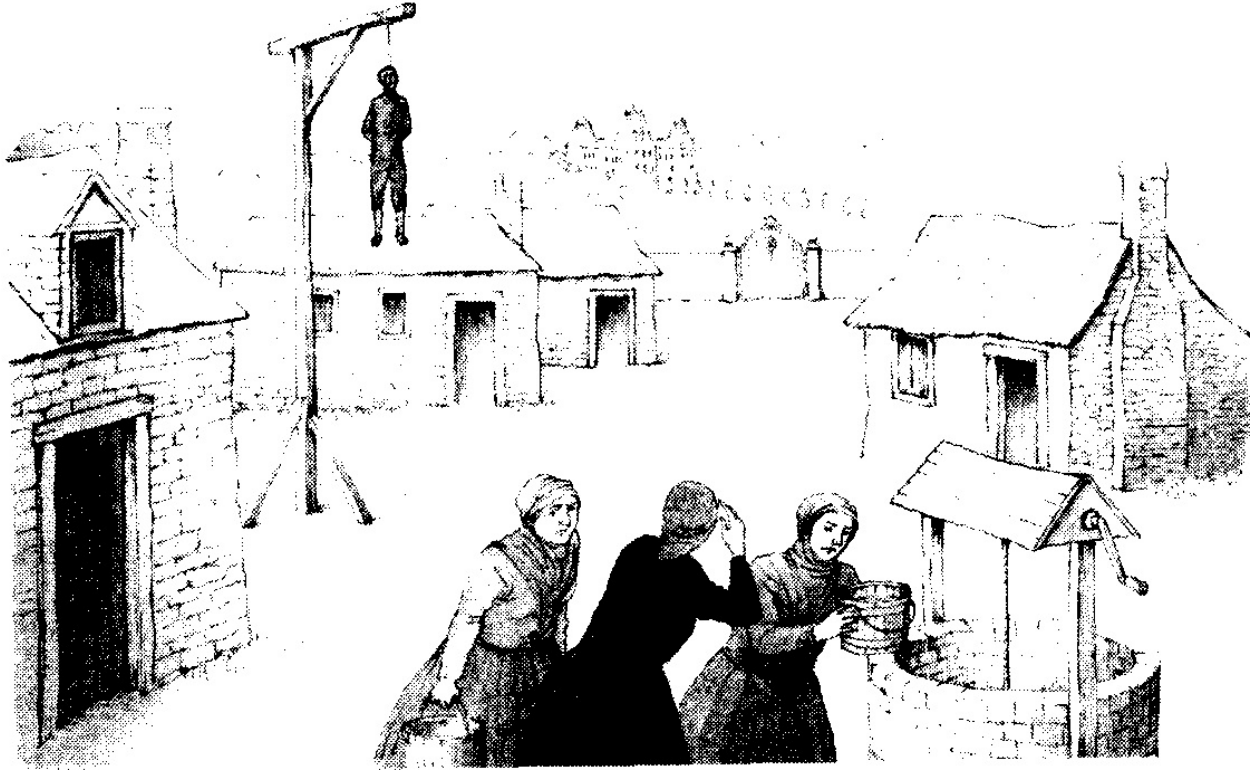
'Madame,' Defarge said to his wife, 'this man, who is called Jacques, has walked a long way with me.'

One customer got up and went out. 'This mender of roads,' continued Defarge,

'who is called Jacques, is a good man. Give him something to drink.' A second man got up and went out. The man who repaired roads sat down and drank. A third man got up and went out.

'Have you finished, my friend?' said Defarge. 'Then come and see the room I promised you.'

They went upstairs, to the room where Dr Manette



but that night the Marquis was murdered. Gaspard
'And they have left his body hanging in the village
disappeared and was only caught a few weeks ago.
square.'

The soldiers brought him into the village and hanged
him. And they have left his body hanging in the
When Jacques Five had left them, Jacques One said
village square, where the women go to
to his friends, 'What do you say? Shall we put their
fetch water, and our children
names on the list?'

play.'

'Yes, all of them. The castle and all of the family of Evremonde.'

'Is the list safe?' asked Jacques Two.

'Yes, my friend,' said Defarge. 'My wife remembers

29

28

A Tale of Two Cities

Stormy years in France

everything. But more than that, every name is carefully but to herself she said, 'About forty years old, tall, knitted into her work. Nothing can be forgotten.'

black hair, thin face. Yes, I know who you are, Mr John

A few days later Defarge reported to his wife some Barsad.'

news from his friend 'Jacques' in the police.

'Is business good?' asked the stranger.

'A new spy has been sent to Saint Antoine. His

'Business is bad. The people are so poor.' Madame

name is

Defarge

Barsad, John Barsad. He's English.'

'What does he look like? Do we know?'

'He's about forty years old, quite tall, black hair, thin face,' said Defarge.

'Good,' said his wife. 'I'll put him on the list tomorrow. But you seem tired tonight. And sad.'

'Well,' said Defarge, 'it is a long time.'

'It takes time to prepare for change. The crimes against the people of France cannot be revenged in a day.'

'But we may not live to see the end.'

'Even if that happens,' replied Madame Defarge, 'we shall help it to come. But I believe that we shall see the day of our revenge against these hated noblemen.'

The next day a stranger came into the wine-shop. At once, Madame Defarge picked up a rose from the table and put it in her hair. As soon as they saw this, the customers stopped talking and, one by one, without

hurrying, left the wine-shop.

'Good day, Madame,' said the stranger.

'Good day, Monsieur,' said Madame Defarge,

looked over to the door. 'Ah, here is my

killed. Her new husband is really the new Marquis,

husband.'

but he prefers to live unknown in England. He's not a

'Good day, Jacques,' said the spy.

Marquis there, just Mr Charles Darnay.'

'You're wrong,' said Defarge, staring at him.

Monsieur Defarge was not happy at this news.

'That's not my name. I am Ernest Defarge.'

When the spy had gone, he said to his wife, 'Can it be

'It's all the same,' said the spy easily. 'I remember

true? If it is, I hope that Miss Manette keeps her

something about you, Monsieur Defarge. You took

husband away from France.'

care of Dr Manette when he came out of the

'Who knows what will happen?' replied Madame

Bastille.'

Defarge.

'That's true,' said Defarge.

'I only know that the name of Evremonde is in my list,

'Have you heard much from Dr Manette and his

and for good reason.' She went on calmly knitting,

daughter? They're in England now.'

adding name after name to her list of the enemies of

'No, not for a long time.'

the people.

'She was married recently. Not to an Englishman,

but to a Frenchman. It's quite interesting when you

Tune passed, and Madame Defarge still knitted. The

remember poor Gaspard. Miss Manette has

women of Saint Antoine also knitted, and the thin

married the nephew of the Marquis that Gaspard

hungry faces of

Jacques and his brothers became darker and angrier. The

30

31

A Tale of Two Cities

Stormy years in France

noise of the coming storm in Paris was growing louder.

It began one summer day in the streets of Saint

A Tale of Two Cities

Stormy years in France

Antoine, around Defarge's wine-shop, with a great crowd of people. A crowd who carried guns, knives, sticks, even stones- anything that could be a weapon.

An angry crowd who shouted and screamed, who were ready to fight and to die in battle.

'Friends and citizens!' shouted Defarge. 'We are ready! To the Bastille!' The crowd began to move, like the waves of the sea.

'Follow me, women!' cried Madame Defarge. A long sharp knife shone brightly in her hand. 'We can kill as well as any man!'

The living sea of angry people ran through Saint Antoine to the Bastille, and soon the hated prison was ringing with the noise of battle. Fire and smoke climbed up the high stone walls and the thunder of the guns echoed through the city.

Four terrible and violent hours. Then a white flag appeared above the walls and the gates were opened.

The Bastille had been taken by the people of Paris!
Soon the crowds were inside the building itself, and
shouting 'Free the prisoners!' But Defarge put his
strong hand on the shoulder of one of the soldiers.
'Show me the North Tower. Take me to One Hundred and
Five, North Tower! Quickly!'

'Follow me,' said the frightened man, and Defarge
and Jacques Three went with him through the dark
prison, past heavy closed doors, up stone stairs, until
they came to a low door. It was a small room, with

A Tale of Two Cities

Stormy years in France

dark stone walls and only one
very small window, too high for anyone to look out. Defarge
*Soon the hated prison was ringing with the noise
of battle.*

32

33

A call for help

A Tale of Two Cities

looked carefully along the

The road-mender, who had brought the news of walls.

Gaspard to Paris, still worked repairing the roads.

'There, look there, Jacques Three,' he cried.

One day a stranger came to him as he worked on the

'A.M.!' whispered Jacques.

road outside the village.

'A.M. Alexandre Manette,' said Defarge softly.

'Jacques,' said the stranger. He shook the road-

'Let us go now.' But before they left, they searched

mender's hand, and turned to look at the Marquis's

the room and the furniture very carefully,

castle on the hill.

looking for small hiding places.

'It's tonight, Jacques,' he went on quietly. 'The others will

Then they returned to the crowds below. The Bastille

and its officers were now in the hands of the people,

and the people wanted revenge, and blood.

'At last, it has begun, my dear,' said Defarge to his

wife. It

was the fourteenth of July,

1789.

In the village where the Marquis had lived, and where Gaspard had died, life was hard. Everything was old and tired and broken down - the people, the land, the houses, the animals. In the past everything and everybody had had to work for the Marquis, and he had given nothing in return.

But now, strangers were travelling about the country, strangers who were poor, like the people, but who talked about new ideas - ideas which had started in Paris and were now running like fire across the country.

A call for help

A Tale of Two Cities

meet me

France had fought to win power, and now they here.'

used it. Castles were burned, laws were changed, and

It was very dark that night and the wind was strong.

the rich and powerful nobles died-their heads cut off

No one saw the four men who came quietly to the

by that terrible new machine of death, the Guillotine. In
castle and said nothing. But soon the castle itself could
Paris the King was put in prison, and in 1792 the
be seen in the dark sky. The windows became bright;
people of France sent him to the Guillotine as well.
smoke and yellow flames climbed into the sky.

The French Revolution was now three years old, but
Monsieur Gabelle called loudly for help, but the
there were more years of terror to come.

people in the village watched and did nothing to save
Not all the rich nobles had died. Some had escaped
the castle where the Marquis had lived.

to England; some had even sent or brought their
money to London before the Revolution began. And

7

Tellson's Bank, which the French emigrants used,

A call **for help**

had become a meeting place where they could hear
and talk about the latest news

The troubles in France continued. The citizens of
from

France.

34

35

A Tale of Two Cities

A call for help

One wet August day Mr Lorry sat at his desk in the
about

bank, talking to Charles Darnay. The years since
your lovely wife at the same time as you talk about
Charles's marriage had seen the arrival of a daughter,
going to

little Lucie, who was now nine years old. Dr Manette
France. You must not go. Your life is here, with your
family.'

had continued in good health, and at the centre of that
'Well, I'm not going to France. But you are, and I'm
warm family circle was always Lucie- a loving
worried about you.'

daughter, wife, mother, and a kind-hearted friend.

Just at that moment a bank clerk put an old,

Even Sydney Carton, though his old, bad ways were

unopened

unchanged, was a family friend - and very much a favourite with little Lucie.

But at this moment Charles Darnay was trying very hard to persuade his old friend Mr Lorry not to go to France. 'It's too dangerous. The weather is not good, the roads are bad, think of your age,' he said.

'My dear Charles,' said the banker. 'You think that, at

nearly eighty years of age, I'm too old. But that's exactly why *I* must go. I have the experience, I know the business. My work is to find and hide papers that might be dangerous to our customers. And anyway, Jerry Cruncher goes with me. He'll take good care of my old bones.'

'I wish I could go,' said Charles restlessly. 'I feel sorry for the

people in France, and perhaps I could help them.

Only last night, when I was talking to Lucie -'

'Talking to Lucie,' repeated Mr Lorry. 'You talk



A Tale of Two Cities

A call for help

letter on Mr Lorry's desk, and Darnay happened to see the name on it: The Marquis of Evremonde, at Tellson's Bank, London. Since his uncle's death this was Darnay's

re

L al

uc na

ie me

he .

O

ha n

d the

ol

d m

o

D rni

r ng of his weddin g to

Manette, but the Doctor had made him promise to keep his name secret. Not even Lucie or Mr Lorry knew.

'We can't find this Marquis,' said rhe clerk.

'I know where to find him ' said Darnay. 'Shall I

,

take the letter?'

'That would be very kind,' said Mr Lorry.

'I know where to find him, • said Darnay.

36

37

A call for help

A Tale of Two Cities

As soon as he had left the bank, Darnay opened the
to them of his plans. He kissed his wife and his
letter. It was from Monsieur Gabelle, who had been
daughter, and said that he would be back soon. And
arrested and taken to Paris.

then he began his journey to Paris.

Monsieur, once the Marquis

When he arrived in France, Darnay found that

I am in prison, and I may lose my life, because I

he could

worked for a landowner who has left France. You

travel only very, very slowly towards Paris. The roads were

told me to work for the people and not against

them, and I have done this. But no one believes me.

They say only that I worked for an emigrant, and

where is that emigrant? Oh Monsieur, please help

me, I beg you!

This cry for help made Darnay very unhappy.

After the

death of the Marquis, he had told Gabelle to do his best for the people. But now Gabelle was in prison, just because he was employed by a nobleman. It was clear to Darnay that he must go to Paris. He did not think that he would be in danger, as he had done everything he could to help the people of his village. He hoped that he would be able to save his old servant.

That night Charles Darnay sat up late, writing two letters. One was to his wife, Lucie; the other was to her father, Dr Manette. He told them where he had gone and why, and he promised that he would write to them from France. He had left secretly, he wrote, to save them from worrying.

The next day he went out, without saying anything

A call for help

A Tale of Two Cities

bad and every town, every village had its citizens

he was sometimes in danger; the people in the towns

with guns who stopped all travellers, asked them and villages all seemed to be very angry with questions, looked at their papers, made them wait or emigrants, but finally they arrived safely at the gates threw them in prison, turned them back or sent them of Paris. Darnay had to wait a long time while officials on their way. And it was all done in the name of freedom- the new Freedom of France.

for his journey. One official, seeing Gabelle's letter, Darnay soon realized that he could not turn back looked up at Damay in great surprise, but said until he had reached Paris and proved himself to be a nothing. Another official asked roughly, good citizen, not an enemy of the people.

'Are you Evn!monde?'

On his third night in France he was woken by an

'Yes,' replied Damay.

official and three other men with guns.

'You will go to the prison of La Force!'

'Emigrant,' said the official. 'These three soldiers

'But why?' asked Damay. 'Under what law?'

will take you to Paris, and you must pay them.'

'We have new laws, Evn!monde,' said the official

Darnay could only obey and at three o'clock in the

sharply,

morning

'and emigrants have no rights. You will be held in

he left with three soldiers to guard him. Even with them

secret. Take

him away.'

39

38

A Tale of Two Cities

In the hands of the citizens

busy sharpening their knives and swords and axes,

As Darnay left, the first official said quietly to him,

which were already red with blood. With shaking

'Are you the man who married the daughter of Dr

hands, Mr Lorry

Manette?'

closed

the

window.

'Yes,' replied Darnay in surprise.

'My name is Defarge and I have a wine-shop m

Saint

Antoine. Perhaps you have heard of

me.'

'Yes. My wife came to your house to find her father.'

'Why did you come back to France? It will be very

bad for you.'

Darnay was taken to the prison of La Force and put

in a cold empty room with a locked door and bars

across the windows. He thought of Dr Manette and his

many years alone, forgotten, in the Bastille.

'Now I, too, have been buried alive,' he thought.

8

In the hands of the citizens

Tellson's Bank in Paris was in a large building south

of the river, close to the heart of the city. Mr Lorry

had arrived in Paris some days before Charles Darnay,

and was now living in some rooms above the bank.

One evening, looking out of the window, he saw that a large grindstone had been brought into the square below. There was a wild, shouting crowd around it,



A Tale of Two Cities

In the hands of the citizens

40

41

The crowd around the grindstone were

busy sharpening their knives and

swords and axes.

He had decided to go downstairs and talk to the bank guards, when suddenly the door of his room opened, and Lucie and her father ran in.

'Lucie! Manette! What has happened? Why are you here?' cried Mr Lorry.

'Charles is in Paris,' cried Lucie. 'He came to help an old family servant. But he's been taken to prison.'

At that moment the shouts of the crowd

and her

outside grew louder.

family in a quiet street near the bank. He left Jerry

'What is that noise?' asked the Doctor.

Cruncher with them as a guard, and returned worriedly

'Don't look out!' cried Mr Lorry.

to Tellson's. At

'My friend,' said the Doctor. 'I am safe in Paris. I

was a prisoner in the Bastille. Everybody knows about

me and how I suffered. Already people want to help

me; they gave us news of Charles.'

'Even so, don't look outside. Where is Charles?'

'In the prison of La Force.'

'La Force! Dear Lucie, you can do nothing tonight. You must go to one of the rooms here and wait. I must talk with your father at once.'

Lucie kissed him and left the room.

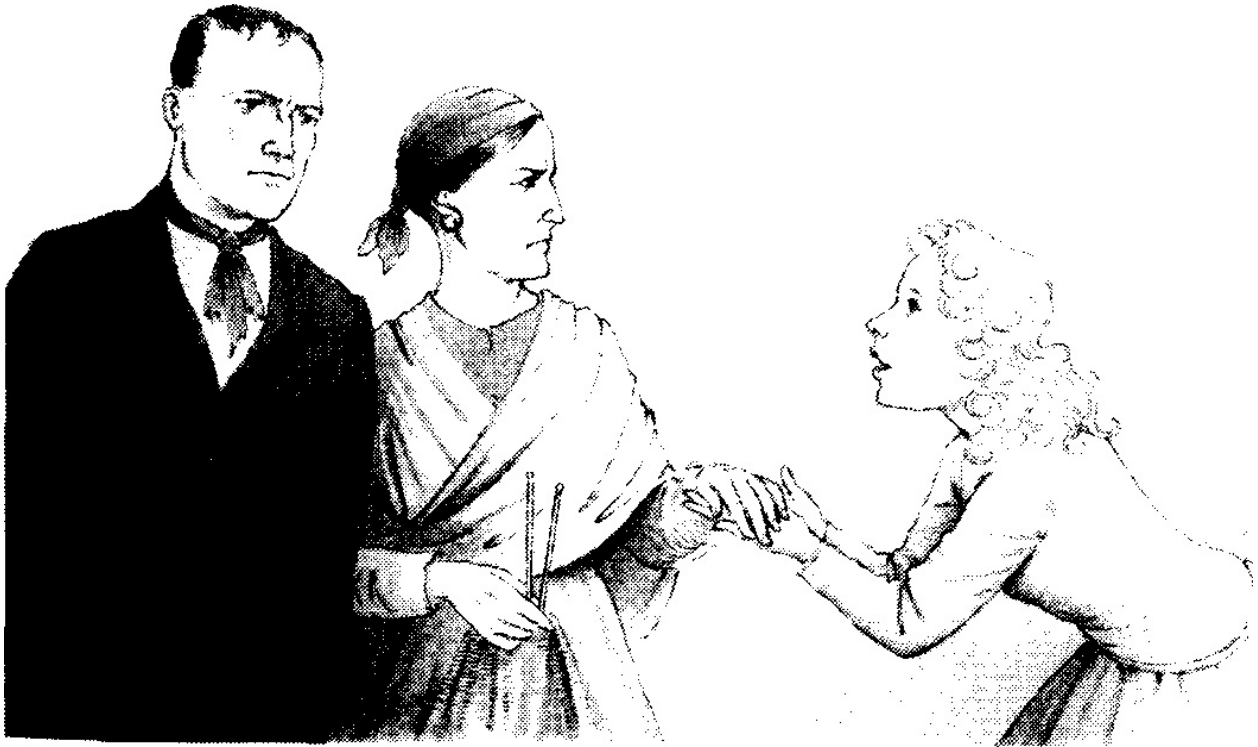
'Quick, Manette,' said Mr Lorry. 'These people outside, with their bloody knives, are murdering the prisoners. If you are so well known, if you have this power, talk to them. Tell them who you are, and go to La Force. Quick, before it is too late!'

Dr Manette hurried outside. Mr Lorry watched from the window as the Doctor talked to the crowd. He heard shouts of

'Long live the Bastille prisoner! Help his friend in La Force!'

Mr Lorry went to Lucie and found her with her daughter and Miss Pross. Together they waited all night for news, but none came.

In the morning Mr Lorry found rooms for Lucie



the end of the day a strong, serious man came to

Only a short letter, but it meant so much to
see him.

Lucie. Gratefully, she kissed the hands of Defarge and

'My name is Defarge. I come from Dr Manette; he
his wife. Madame Defarge said nothing; her hand was
gave me this.' Defarge gave him a piece of paper.

cold and heavy, and Lucie felt frightened of her.

The Doctor had written, *Charles is safe, but I
cannot leave this place yet. Take Defarge to Lucie.*

'Come with me,' said Mr Lorry happily. They went

downstairs and at the front door found Madame Defarge, knitting. Without a word, she joined them, and Mr Lorry led them to Lucie's rooms.

There, Defarge gave Lucie a note from her husband.

Dearest - be brave. I am well, and your father has some power here. You cannot answer this, but kiss our child for me.

Gratefully, Lucie kissed the hands of Defarge and his wife.

42

43

Miss Pross came in with little Lucie.

law was now a prisoner in La Force. The Tribunal 'Is that his child?' asked Madame Defarge, stopping had agreed to keep Charles Darnay safe from the her knitting to stare.

murdering crowds, but they would not let him leave

'Yes, Madame,' said Mr Lorry. 'That is our poor the prison.

prisoner's

little daughter.'

Dr Manette seemed to become stronger as he lived through

'It is enough, my husband,' said Madame Defarge.

'We can go now.' Her voice was as cold as her hand.

'You will be good to my husband?' asked Lucie,
afraid. 'I

beg you, as a wife and mother.'

'We have known many wives and mothers,' said

Madame Defarge. 'And we have seen many husbands
and fathers put in prison, for many years. What is one
more, among so many?'

As the Defarges left, Lucie turned to Mr Lorry. 'I am
more afraid of her than of any other person in Paris,'
she whispered. Mr Lorry held her hands; he did not
say anything, but he was also very worried.

The Doctor did not come back from La Force for
several days. During that time eleven hundred
prisoners were killed by the people. Inside the prison
Dr Manette had come before a Tribunal, which was
a group of judges appointed by the people. These
judges made their own laws and threw prisoners out
into the streets to be murdered by the crowds. Dr

Manette told the Tribunal that he had been a prisoner in the Bastille for eighteen years, and that his son-in-



these terrible days, doing everything he could to save doctor to three prisons and was able to visit Darnay his daughter's husband. He was able to see Darnay regularly. He became regularly, but noblemen and emigrants were hated by the citizens of new France, and the Doctor could not set Darnay free. The Guillotine, that new machine of death, cut off the heads of many, many people - the

powerful and the cruel, but also the beautiful, the innocent, and the good. Each day Lucie did not know if her husband would live or die. She lived every moment in great fear, but her father was sure that he could save his son-in-law.

One year and three months passed and Darnay was still in prison. Dr Manette now had an official job as *Darnay was still in prison.*

44

45

more and more loved by the rough people of the 'Kill him!' shouted the people. 'Cut off his head! Revolution. But the Guillotine continued to kill.

He's an

'Try not to worry,' he told Lucie. 'Nothing can

enemy

of

the

happen to

people!'

Charles. I know that I can save him.' But Lucie could

The President of the judges asked Damay, 'Is it true not see him or visit him; she could not even write to that you lived many years in England?' him.

'Yes, that is true,' replied Damay.

On the day when Charles Damay was at last called

'So you are an emigrant, surely.'

for his

trial, Lucie and Dr Manette hurried to Tellson's Bank

to tell Mr Lorry. As they arrived, a man got up and

disappeared into another room. They did not see who

it was, but in fact it was Sydney Carton, just arrived

from London.

There were five judges in the Tribunal, and the

trials were short and simple. The voices of truth,

honesty, and calm reason were never heard at

these trials, and most of the prisoners were sent to

the Guillotine, which pleased the noisy crowds. Fifteen

prisoners were called before Damay that day, and in

no more than an hour and a half, all of them had been

condemned to death.

'Charles Evremonde, who is called Damay.'

As Damay walked in front of the judges, he tried to remember the careful advice that Dr Manette had given him.

'Charles Evremonde, you are an emigrant. All emigrants must die. That is the new law of France.'

* * *

'No, not in the meaning of the law,' replied Damay. 'I agreement loudly. Soon they were carrying Damay in earn my own living in England. I have never wanted a chair through the streets of Paris to Dr Manette's or used the name of Marquis, and I did not want to live house. Lucie was waiting there, and when she ran out by the work of the poor people of France. So I went to and fell into the arms of her husband, the men and live and work in England, long before the Revolution.' women in the crowd kissed one another and danced

'And did you marry in England?'

for happiness. Damay and Lucie were together again,

'Yes, I married a Frenchwoman. The daughter safe and happy.'

of Dr Manette, a prisoner of the Bastille and a well-known friend of all good citizens!' proudly.

These words had a happy effect on the crowd.

'Well, I have saved him, and you must not worry now.'

Those who had shouted for his death now shouted for his life. Then Monsieur Gabelle and Dr Manette spoke for Charles Damay. The Doctor spoke well and men and women had died, for no reason, and every day brought more deaths. A shadow of fear and hate had finished, the judges decided that the prisoner lay over France, and no one knew what dangers the should be set free, and the crowd shouted their next day would bring.

46

47

The spy

A Tale of Two Cities

It was not possible to leave Paris at once, as Charles

'I am here,' said Darnay. 'But why am I again a prisoner?'

did not have the necessary papers. They must live

'You are accused by citizens of Saint Antoine.'

quietly, and hope to

Dr Manette had said nothing. He seemed to be

leave as soon as they could.

made of stone, but suddenly he spoke.

But that night, when Dr Manette, Charles and

Lucie were

'Will you tell me who has accused my son-in-law?'

sitting together, they heard a loud knock at the door.

'I shouldn't tell you this,' said one of the men, 'but

'What can this be?' said Lucie, trembling. 'Hide

Citizen Evremonde, called Darnay, is accused by

Charles!

Monsieur and Madame Defarge, and by one other

Save him!'

person.'

'My child,' said the Doctor, 'I *have* saved him. He is

'What other?'

a free

'You will hear that tomorrow,' replied the man.

man!'

But when he opened the door, four rough men

pushed their

9

way into the room.

'The Citizen Evremonde, where is he? He is

The spy

again the

prisoner of the people.'

'The Citizen Evremonde is again the prisoner of the people.'



The spy

A Tale of Two Cities

While this was happening, Miss Pross was out
'Don't call me Solomon. You'll get me killed. Pay
shopping for the family. Jerry Cruncher was with
for your wine, and come outside,' said the man in a
her, and they had just gone into a wine-shop when
low, frightened voice.

Miss Pross suddenly stopped, looked at one of the
They went outside. 'You mustn't recognize me

customers, and cried out in a loud voice,
here,' said the man. 'It's not safe. Go your way, and let
'Oh Solomon, dear Solomon! I've found you at
me go mine.'
last, dear brother! But whatever are you doing here in
Miss Pross began to cry at these unbrotherly
Paris?'
words, and

49

48



Jerry Cruncher stepped forward to stare in the man's face.

'Wait a minute,' said Jerry. 'Is your name John

'I saw you come out of the Conciergerie today. I followed

Solomon, or Solomon John? Your sister calls you

Solomon. I know that your name's John; I remember that. But your other name wasn't Pross at that Old Bailey trial. What was your name then?'

'Barsad!' said another voice.

'Yes, Barsad, that's it,' cried Jerry. He turned round and saw Sydney Carton standing behind him.

'Don't be alarmed, my dear Miss Pross,' said Carton,

smiling at her. 'But I'm afraid I have to tell you that your brother is a spy, a spy for the French prisons.'

Solomon Pross, also Barsad, went pale. 'That's not true!'

'I have to tell you that your brother is a spy,' said Carton.

you,' said Carton, 'and I found out what you do. And Barsad

I've decided that you may be able to help me. Come

.

with me to the office of Mr Lorry.'

'Oh, I think you will,' said Sydney Carton, 'when

After a short argument, which Carton won, Barsad you hear what I could say about you. Let's think. Mr followed him to Mr Lorry's office.

Barsad is a spy, and a prison guard, but he used to be a

'I bring bad news,' Carton said to Mr Lorry.

spy in England. Is he still paid by the English?'

'Darnay has

'No one will listen to you,' said Barsad.

been

arrested

'But I can say more, Mr Barsad,' replied Carton.

again.'

Barsad had more problems than Carton knew. He

'But I was with him only two hours ago,' cried Mr

Lorry.

could not return to England because he was wanted

'He was safe and

by the police there. And in France, before he became a

free!'

prison guard for the citizens' revolution, he had been a

'Even so, he has been arrested and taken to the

spy for the King's officers. He knew that Madame

Conciergerie. And I'm not sure that Dr Manette's good

Defarge, that terrible woman, had knitted his name

name can save him this time. So we must have Mr

into her list of enemies of the people. Most of those on Barsad's help.'

her list had already been killed by the Guillotine, and

'I will not help you,' said Solomon Pross, called

Barsad did not want to be next.

John

51

50

A Tale of Two Cities

The spy

'You seem worried, Mr Barsad,' said Carton calmly.

work behind him. Tears filled his eyes as he realized

The spy turned to Mr Lorry. 'Miss Pross is my

he could do nothing to help Lucie and her father now.

sister, sir. Would you send her brother to his death,

Sydney Carton felt very sorry for Mr Lorry. 'You're

sir?'

a good

'The best thing for your sister, Mr Barsad,' said

friend of Dr Manette and his daughter, but don't

Carton smoothly, 'is not to have a brother like you.

tell them about me or this meeting. It can't help Lucie.'

I think I will inform the Tribunal that I suspect you

He paused. 'Will you go back to London soon?'

of spying for England. You will be condemned at

'Yes, my work for Tellson's Bank here is finished. I

have the

once, I am sure.'

'All right,' Barsad said slowly, 'I'll help you. But

necessary papers to leave Paris. I was ready to go tomorrow.'

don't ask

me to do anything that will put my life in danger,

because I

won't

do

it.'

'You're a guard at the Conciergerie prison, where

Darnay is, aren't you?' said Carton. 'Come, let us talk

privately in the next room.'

When Mr Carton returned alone, Mr Lorry asked

what he

had

done.

'Not much,' replied Carton, 'but if it goes badly for Darnay tomorrow, I can visit him once. It's all I could do.'

'But that will not save him,' cried Mr Lorry sadly.

'I never said it would.'

Mr Lorry was an old man now, with a life of hard



A Tale of Two Cities

The spy

'Then don't change your plans,' said Carton, very Paris. He watched the moon rise in the sky, he listened seriously.

to the sounds of the River Seine flowing through the heart of the city, and he thought calmly about the Later that night Sydney Carton visited a shop in a past, and the future. He thought about all the deaths quiet corner of Paris. He wrote on a piece of paper that the city had already seen ... and he thought the names of several powders and gave it to the about Lucie's gentle, loving face and her sad, sad eyes. shopkeeper.

'For you, citizen?' asked the shopkeeper.

'Yes, for me.'

'You must be careful, citizen. Keep these things separate. You know what happens if you put them together.'

'Perfectly,' replied Carton.

Carton spent the rest of that night walking the streets of Paris.

He spent the rest of that night walking the streets of

52

The secret paper

husband?'

10

'Citizen Manette,' said the President, 'be calm.

Nothing can be more important to a good citizen than

The secret paper

the freedom

of France.'

When Charles Darnay was led before the Tribunal the next morning, Dr Manette, Lucie and Mr Lorry were all there. The love in Lucie's eyes as she looked at her husband warmed Darnay's heart. It had the same effect on Sydney Carton, though no one saw him standing at the back of the room.

It was the same Tribunal who had let Darnay go free on the day before. But Revolution Laws were not as powerful as the anger of the people.

The President of the Tribunal asked, 'Who has accused Charles Evremonde again?'

'Three voices,' he was told. 'He is accused by

Ernest Defarge, by Teresa Defarge his wife, and by
Alexandre Manette, Doctor.'

There was a great noise in the room when Dr
Manette's name was heard. When the shouting
stopped, Dr Manette stood, pale and trembling.

'President, this cannot be true. You know that the
man who is accused, Charles Darnay, is my daughter's
husband. My daughter and those who are dear to her
are far more important to me than my life. Where is
the liar who says that I accuse my daughter's

The secret paper

'Where is the liar who says that

I accuse my daughter's

husband?'

Defarge came forward to answer questions. He told
how he had been at the Bastille at the beginning of
the Revolution, when that hated prison had been taken
by the citizens.

'I knew that Dr Manette had been kept in a room
known as One Hundred and Five, North Tower. It was
the only name he had when he came to me in 1775. I

went to the room and, hidden in a hole, I found a written paper. It is in Dr Manette's writing.'

The secret paper

54

55

A Tale of Two Cities

The secret paper

'Read it to us,' said the President, and the crowd brothers, and their clothes and voices suggested fell silent and listened.

that they were noblemen. But they took care to prevent me from learning their name.

I, Alexandre Manette, write this in the Bastille

Before I could speak, the older brother said

in 1767. I have been here for ten long years and I carelessly,

write this in my secret moments, when I can.

'There is another patient.' In a different room,

One evening in December, 1757, I was walking

they showed me a boy of about seventeen. There

by the

was a sword wound in his chest and I could see
River Seine and a coach stopped beside me. Two
at once that he was dying.

men got out and one asked me if I was Dr
'How did this happen?' I asked.

Manette. When I replied that I was, they asked me
to go with them, and made it clear that I could not
refuse.

The coach left Paris and stopped at a lonely
house. I

could hear cries coming from a room upstairs.

When I went in, I saw a young woman lying on a
bed. She was young and very beautiful. She was
also very ill. She kept crying out,

'My husband, my father, and my brother!' Then
she listened for a moment, and began once
again, 'My husband, my father, and my brother ..
'

I gave the girl something to make her
calmer, but her

feverish screams continued. Then I turned to question the two men. They were clearly

A Tale of Two Cities

The secret paper

'He's just a crazy young peasant. He came here poor heart and he died suddenly. I took my shouting about revenge, and made my brother younger sister to a place where she is safe, and fight him.' The older brother's voice was cold and came here to find this man. He threw some hard; he seemed to think the boy was less money at me, tried to buy me like a dog, but I important than a horse or a dog.

made him pull his sword and fight me to save his

The boy's eyes looked at me. 'Have you seen life.'

her ... my sister?' It was hard for him to speak.

The boy's life was going fast, but he cried,

'I have seen her,' I replied.

'Lift me, Doctor.' He turned his face towards

'These rich nobles are cruel to us, Doctor. They

the older brother.

destroy our land, they take our food, they steal our

'Marquis,' he said loudly, 'I call for you and your

sisters. My sister loved a man in our village; he

brother, and all your family, now and in the

was sick, but she married him to take care of him.

future, to pay for what you have done.' Then he

But my sister is beautiful, and that nobleman's

fell back, dead.

brother saw her and wanted her. They made her

The young woman's fever continued, but I

husband work night and day without stopping,

could not

until he dropped dead where he stood. Then they

save her. She lived for several more days, and

once the

took my sister away. When my father heard what

Marquis said to me, 'How long these peasants

had happened, the news was too much for his

take to die!'

*A Tale of Two Cities**Madam Defarge's revenge*

When she was dead, the brothers warned me

The child answered, 'Yes!'

to keep silent. They offered me money, but I

Later that day I sent my letter to the King's

refused it and was taken back to my home.

officials and that night there was a knock at my

The next day I decided to write to the King's officials. I

door. My servant, a boy called Ernest Defarge,

knew that nobles who did unlawful things were

brought in a stranger, who asked me to come at

usually not punished, and I expected that nothing

once to visit a sick man in the next street.

would happen. But I did not realize the danger

As soon as I was outside the house, several

men took

for myself. Just as I had finished writing my letter,

hold of me violently. The Evremonde brothers

a lady came to see me. She said she was the wife

came out of the darkness and the Marquis of the Marquis of Evremonde and she had taken my letter out of his pocket. She discovered what her husband and his brother had done. She wanted to help the younger sister of the girl who had died, and asked me where she could find her. Sadly, I did not know and so could not tell her. But that was how I learnt the brothers' name.

The wife of the Marquis was a good, kind woman, deeply unhappy in her marriage. She had brought her son with her, a boy about three years old. 'If I cannot find this poor girl,' she said, 'I shall tell my son to continue the search after my death. You will remember that, little Charles, won't you?'

A Tale of Two Cities

Madam Defarge's revenge

pocket, showed it to me, and burned it. Not a word was spoken. Then I was brought here to this

II

prison, my living grave.

I have been here for ten long years. I do not

Madame Defarge's revenge

know if my

dear wife is alive or dead; these brothers have sent

Lucie held out her arms to her husband. 'Let me kiss

me no news of my family. There is no goodness

him, one last time.'

in their cruel hearts. I, Alexandre Manette, in my

Most of the citizens had gone out into the streets to

pain and sadness, I condemn them in the face of

shout how they hated the prisoners, but Barsad was

God.

still there.

'Let her kiss her husband,' he said. 'It's just for a

When Defarge had finished reading, a terrible sound rose

minute.'

from the crowd, a long wild cry of anger and revenge.

Lucie went over to her husband and he took her in

Death for the hated Marquis of Evremonde, enemy of

his arms. Dr Manette followed his daughter and fell on

the people! The trial was over, and in less than twenty-

his knees before

four hours Charles Darnay would go to the Guillotine.

them, but Darnay pulled him to his feet, saying,

58

59

'No, no. Now we know how much you suffered,

in Paris would even try to save him. The people would

especially when you knew whose son I was. But you

be too angry. I will return here later, to see if there is

kept your feelings secret, because of your love for

any news, but there is no real hope.'

Lucie. We thank you, with all our hearts, for what

He left the house and began to walk quickly

you did. I tried so hard to do what my mother had

towards Saint

wished, but I never found that poor girl. And how

Antoine. His face was calm and serious; he looked like a man

could that terrible story ever have a happy ending?'

He turned to his wife. 'My dearest love, we shall meet again, in the place where there are no worries.

God be with you both.' As Darnay was taken

away, Lucie fell to the floor, unconscious. Sydney

Carton came quickly forward to help Mr Lorry and

Dr Manette. He carried Lucie to her coach and she

was taken home. Then he carried her into the house

where her daughter and Miss Pross waited, tears

falling from their

eyes.

'Before I go,' said Sydney Carton, 'may I kiss her?'

He touched Lucie's face lightly with his lips,

whispered a few words, and went into the next room.

'You are still very popular with the citizens,

Doctor. You

must try again to talk to the judges.'

'I'll do everything I can. Everything,' Dr Manette

said.

Mr Lorry went with Carton to the door.

'I have no hope,' whispered Mr Lorry sadly.

'Nor have I,' replied Carton. 'After today, no judge



who had decided to do something. 'I must show myself to the people here,' he thought. 'They should know that there is a man like me in the city.'

In Defarge's wine-shop the only customer was Jacques Three, who had been on the Tribunal that had decided Darnay should die. When Carton sat down and asked for a glass of wine, Madame Defarge looked at him carelessly at first. Then much more

carefully. She went back to her husband and Jacques Three, who were talking. 'He is very much like Evremonde,' she said softly.

Defarge himself looked at Carton and said, 'Yes, but only a little,' and the three continued their conversation. Carton

'He is very much like Evremonde,' said Madame Defarge softly.

60

61

A Tale of Two Cities

listened carefully, while pretending to read a newspaper. They have the necessary papers, and so do you.

Here are mine - take them and keep them safe with

'Madame is right,' said Jacques Three. 'Why your own. You must leave by coach at two o'clock should we stop at Evremonde?'

tomorrow. Keep a place for me in the coach, and

'We must stop somewhere,' said Defarge.

don't leave without me. Promise that you will do

'Not until they are all dead, every one of that

exactly what I have said. Many lives will depend on family,' said his wife.

'You're right, but think how much the Doctor has suffered. it.'

'I promise,' said Mr Lorry.

Perhaps he has suffered enough.'

'Listen,' said Madame Defarge coldly. 'Don't forget that *I* was that younger sister. And it was *my* family that suffered so much from the Evremonde brothers. It was *my* sister who died, and *my* sister's husband, and *my* father; it was *my* brother who was killed.

Tell others to stop; don't tell me!'

Carton paid for his wine and went out quickly on his way.

He went back to Dr Manette's house, where more bad news was waiting for him. The Doctor's mind had returned to the past once again. He did not recognize his friends, and wanted only to find his old table and to make shoes.

'Listen to me carefully,' Carton said to Mr Lorry. 'I

believe

that Lucie, her daughter, and perhaps even her father are in great danger. I heard Madame Defarge talking about them tonight. They must leave Paris tomorrow.

A Tale of Two Cities

12

and in the

A change of clothes

morning he walked up and down his prison, waiting.

He counted the hours - nine, gone for ever, ten,

Charles Darnay passed his last night alone in the

eleven, twelve gone for ever. At one o'clock he heard

prison. He had no hope. He knew he must die, not for

someone outside the door. The door opened and

anything he had done wrong, but for the crimes of his

closed and there stood Sydney Carton, holding a

father and his uncle. He sat down to write to his wife:

warning finger to his lips.

I knew nothing about the time your father

'Be quiet! I come from your wife. She begs you to do

exactly

*spent in prison until he told me. Even then I did not
what I say, and to ask no questions. There is no time.*

know that it was my family that had been so cruel to

Take off your boots and put on mine.'

him. I told your father that my real name was

'Carton, my dear friend,' said Darnay, 'it is

Evrbnonde, and he made me promise not to tell

impossible to escape from this place. You will only die

you. I am sure that he had forgotten the paper he had

with me.'

written, but what has happened now is not his fault.

'I'm not asking you to escape. Put on my shirt, and

Take care of him and our child, and one day we shall

my coat.'

all meet again in the happier world that comes after

death. Darnay did not sleep peacefully that night

63

A change of clothes

A Tale of Two Cities

He did not allow Darnay time to argue or refuse.

'Nothing. Have you written "see it"? Good, now go

'Now sit down and write what I say,' he said.

on writing,' said Carton quietly. *'I am happy that I*

'Quickly, my friend, quickly!'

can prove them now. This is not a reason for

'If you remember,' he said, and Darnay wrote, *'the words*

sadness.' Carton's hand was close to Darnay's face,

we spoke so long ago, you will understand this when

and he gently pressed a cloth against Darnay's nose

you see it.' As he said this, Carton took his hand from

and mouth. A minute later Darnay lay unconscious

his pocket.

on the ground. Carton quickly dressed himself in

'What is that in your hand?' asked Darnay.

Carton's hand was close to Darnay's face.

A change of clothes

A Tale of Two Cities

Darnay's clothes, and pushed the note that

yourself, and tell Mr Lorry to leave at once!'

Darnay had written inside Darnay's pocket. Then he

Barsad called two men into the room, and told them

went to the door and called softly, 'Come in now.'

to lift the unconscious man and carry him out.

The spy Barsad came in.

'The time is short, Evremonde,' said Barsad, in a

'Quick, help me,' said Carton. 'You must help me
warning

to the coach.'

VOI

'You?' asked the spy.

Ce.

'Him, man, I've changed places with him. You can

'I know it well,' replied Carton. 'Be careful with my
say that it was too much for him, saying his last
friend, and leave me.'

goodbye to his friend. That happens quite often, I

The door closed and Carton was left alone. He
believe.'

listened carefully but there were only normal

'Yes, often,' replied Barsad. 'But do you promise to
prison sounds. No shouts, no alarm bells. He waited
keep me out of danger, and go on with this plan to the
calmly.'

end? The number must be right. Fifty-two prisoners
Soon he heard the sound of doors opening. The door
must die today.'

of his

'Have I not already promised to be true to the death?

prison cell opened and a man said, 'Follow me,

Hurry,

Evremonde!' and Carton followed him into a large,

man! Take him to Mr Lorry, put him in the coach

dark room.

65

64

A Tale of Two Cities

'Oh, will you let me hold your brave hand, stranger?'

'Yes, my poor sister, to the last.'

There were many people there, some standing,

some sitting, some walking about, some crying.

Most of them stood, silent, looking at the ground. A

young woman came up to him; she was thin and pale.

'Citizen Evremonde,' she said. 'I was with you in La

Force.'

'True,' he said softly, 'but I forget what you were accused of.'

'I am innocent. What could a poor little thing like me do? I am not afraid to die, Citizen Evremonde, but I have done nothing.'

Her sad smile as she said this touched Carton's heart.

'They say that the Revolution will do so much good for the poor people,' said the girl. 'How can my death help the poor? If it is true, I am willing to die, but I do not know how that can be. I heard that you were set free, Citizen Evremonde,' she went on. 'I hoped it was true.'

'It was, but I was taken again, and condemned.'

'When we go from here, Citizen Evremonde, will you let me hold your hand? I am not afraid but I am little and weak, and it will help to make me brave.'

The young girl looked into his face and he saw a sudden doubt come into her eyes, followed by surprise. He touched his lips with his finger.

'Are you dying for him?' she whispered.

'And his wife and child. Yes.'



13

The last goodbyes

At that same hour in the early afternoon a coach
going out of

Paris drives up to the gates of the city.

'Who goes there? Show us your papers!' The guard
looks at the papers. 'Alexandre Manette, Doctor.

Which is he?'

This is Dr Manette; this helpless old man,
whispering crazily to himself.

'The last few days of the Revolution have been too

*'Show us your
papers!'*

much for him,' said the guard with a cruel laugh.

'Lucie his daughter. The wife of Evremonde. Which is

67

she?'

This is she. With her child, little Lucie, beside her.

A Tale of Two Cities

The last goodbyes

'Hah, your husband has another meeting today.

The others agreed willingly. 'No one must escape.

Sydney

More

Carton. Lawyer, English. Which is

heads

must

he?'

fall.'

He is here, in the corner. He is not well.

'Lucie Manette will be at home now, waiting for the

'And Jarvis Lorry. Banker, English. Which is he?'

moment of her husband's death,' said Madame

'I am he, and the last,' says Jarvis Lorry.

Defarge. 'I

'Here are your papers, Jarvis Lorry. You may go.'

There are wildly beating hearts in the coach, and

trembling hands; there is the heavy breathing of the

unconscious traveller. But onwards the coach goes; the

horses are fast, and there are no shouts behind them on

the road.

Also that afternoon Madame Defarge was talking with

her friends.

'My husband is a good citizen, but he is not strong

enough.

He feels sorry for the Doctor. I say that all the

Evremonde people must go to the Guillotine. The wife

and the child must follow the husband.'

'They're both fine heads for the Guillotine,' said

Jacques Three. 'Their heads will be a pretty sight when

they are shown to the people. Yes, they too, must die.'

'But I'm afraid that my husband may warn them and let them escape,' Madame Defarge went on, 'and I must do something myself. After the death of Evremonde at three this afternoon we'll go to the Tribunal and accuse them.'

A Tale of Two Cities

The last goodbyes

will go to her. She will say things against the
The house was not yet empty. Miss Pross and Jerry
Revolution, and condemn herself. Here, take my
Cruncher were there, preparing to follow Mr Lorry's
knitting and keep my usual seat near the Guillotine.'
coach. Mr Lorry had decided that two coaches were
'Don't be late,' said her friend.
better than one; with fewer passengers, each coach
'To see the death of Evremonde, I shall not be late,'
would travel faster. But Miss Pross was still worried. A
replied the cruel voice of Madame Defarge.
second coach leaving from the house might suggest an
There were many women in Paris at that time who

escape.

hated the nobles and wanted to see them die. But of all
'Mr Cruncher,' she said, 'you must go and stop our
these women, Madame Defarge was the one most feared.
coach coming here. Drive to the church instead, and
All her life she had been filled with hate. It was nothing
I'll meet you there at three o'clock.'

to her that an innocent man was going to die because
Jerry hurried away. It was twenty past two, and at
of his father's and his uncle's crimes. She wanted
once Miss Pross began to get herself ready to leave.
more. Hidden in her clothes were a gun and a sharp
She was washing her face when she suddenly looked
knife, and with her usual confident step, she began to
up and saw a figure standing in the room.

walk to Dr Manette's house.

Madame Defarge looked at her coldly. 'The wife of

68

69

Evremonde; where is

door, but Miss Pross jumped forward and held her

she?'

round the waist. Madame Defarge was used to the

Miss Pross quickly stood in front of the door to

fighting in the streets and was strong, but love is

Lucie's room. 'You're a cruel, dangerous woman,

stronger than hate and Miss Pross did not let go.

but you won't frighten me,' she said, breathing hard.

Madame Defarge tried to pull out her knife.

Each woman spoke in her own language, and

neither

'No,' said Miss Pross, 'it's under my arm. You

understood the other's words. But Madame Defarge

shall not have it.'

knew that Miss Pross was a true friend of the Doctor's

Madame Defarge put her hand to the front of her

dress and

family, and Miss Pross knew that Madame Defarge

was the family's enemy.

'I wish to see the wife of Evremonde. Go and tell her.

Do you

hear me?' said Madame Defarge. She stared angrily

at Miss

Pross, but Miss Pross stared back just as

angrily.

'I am desperate,' said Miss Pross. 'I know that the longer I can keep you here, the greater hope there is for my darling girl. If you fight me, I'll fight back!'

Madame Defarge stepped forward and called

loudly,

'Citizen Doctor! Wife of Evremonde!

Answer me!'

There was no answer and Madame Defarge quickly opened three of the doors and saw that the rooms were empty. One door was still closed.

'If they are not in that room, they are gone. But they can be

followed and brought back.' She went towards the



began to pull out the gun. Miss Pross looked down,

Miss Pross hit out at the gun

saw what it was, and hit out at it wildly. There was a
wildly.

loud bang, and a cloud of smoke, and Miss Pross

stood alone, trembling with

the lifeless body of Madame Defarge on the ground. In

terro

horror, she opened her mouth to call for help, but then

r.

she thought of the dangers this would bring for her

All this in a second. As the smoke cleared, Miss dear Lucie. With shaking hands, she got her hat and Pross saw coat, locked the door of the room, and went downstairs. As she crossed the bridge on the way to the church, she dropped the key of the locked room in the river and hurried on to meet Jerry Cruncher.

* 4

*

As the death-carts carry the condemned prisoners through the

70

71

streets of Paris, crowds watch to see the faces of those your eyes on me, dear child, and do not think of who are to die. In the chairs around the Guillotine, anything else.'

the friends of Madame Defarge are waiting for her.

'I do not mind while I hold your hand. I shall not

'Teresa, Teresa Defarge! Who has seen her? She's never mind when

missed before!'

I let it go, if they are
quick.'

But the death-carts have arrived, and the Guillotine

'They are quick. Fear not!'

has already begun its work. Crash! - A head is held

She kisses his lips; he kisses hers. Now the

up, and the women who sit knitting count One.

Guillotine is waiting. The young girl goes next,

The supposed Evremonde helps the young girl

down from

before him. The women count Twenty-Two, and

the cart. He carefully places her with her back to the

Carton walks forward.

Guillotine, and she looks up gratefully into his face.

Twenty-Three.

'Because of you, dear stranger, I am calm. I think

you were sent to me by God,' she whispers.

They said of him that it was the most peaceful face

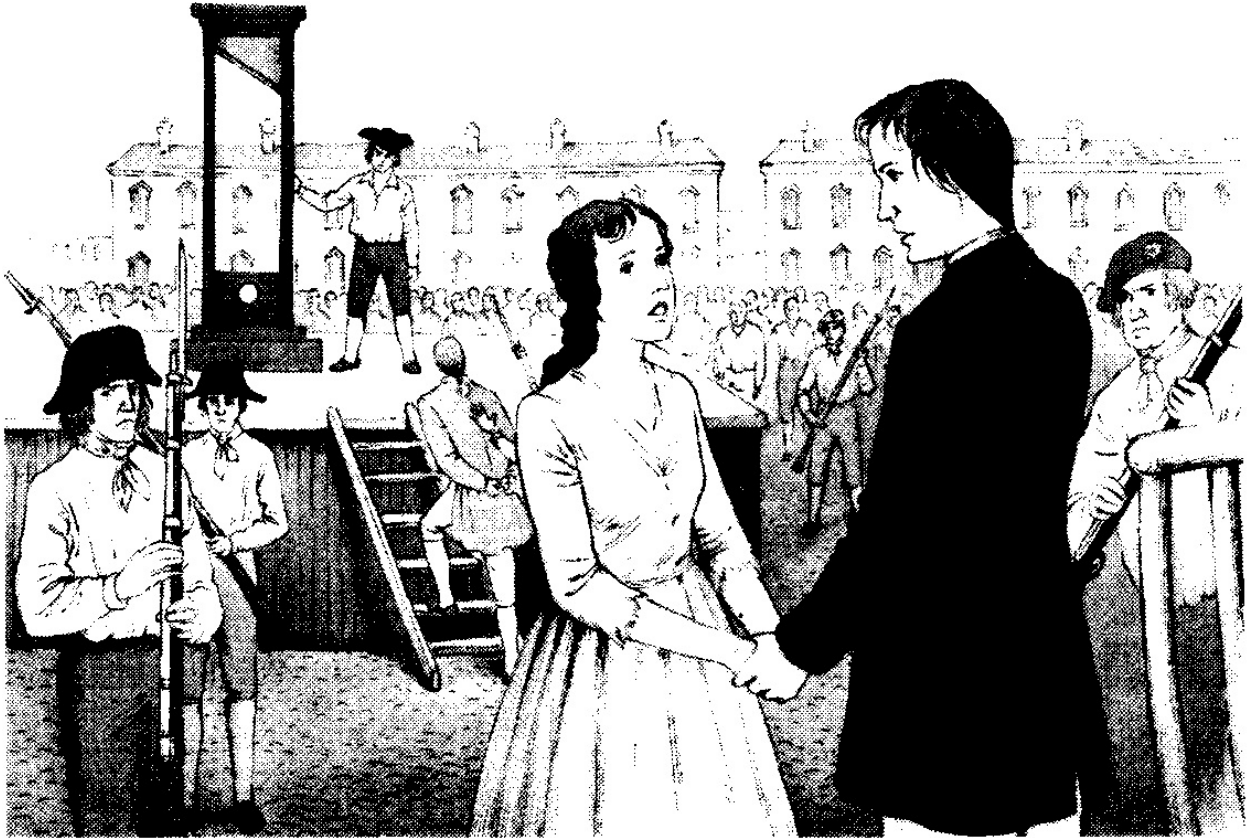
'Or perhaps He sent you to me,' says Sydney Carton.

ever seen there. What passed through Sydney

'Keep

Carton's mind as he walked those last steps to his death? Perhaps he saw into the future ...

'I see Barsad, Defarge, the judges, all dying under this terrible machine. I see a beautiful city being built in this terrible place. I see that new people will live here, in real freedom. I see the lives for whom I give my life, happy and peaceful in that England which I shall never see again. I see Lucie when she is old, crying for me on this day every year, and I know that she and her husband remember me until their deaths. I see their son, who has my name, now a man. I see him become a famous lawyer and make my name famous by his work. I hear him tell his son my story.



'It is a far, far better thing that I do, than I have ever
is a far, far better rest that I go to, than I have ever known.'
done; it

*

*'Keep your eyes on me, dear
child, and do not think of
anything else.'*

72

GLOSSARY

A Tale of Two Cities

citizen someone who belongs to a country or city

revolution when people

condemn to say at a law trial that someone must

fight to change the way

be punished emigrant someone who leaves their

their country is

own country to live in

controlled

another country

servant someone who is

grave a hole in the ground where a dead person is

paid to work in another

person's house

buried guillotine a machine with a big knife for

suffer to feel

cutting people's heads

pain, sadness,

off

etc. in body

guilty you are guilty if it is proved at a law trial

or mind terror

that you have done something wrong

very great

hang to kill someone by holding them above the

fear

ground with a rope round their neck

tribunal a group of

innocent you are innocent if you are accused of a

people who are judges at

crime but did not do it

some kinds of

knit to use long sticks to make clothes from wool

trial

Marquis the title of a

nobleman memory something

that you remember

nobleman someone belonging to an important,

titled family pale with little colour in the face

peasant a poor farmer who owns or rents a small

piece of land powerful strong or important enough

to make other people do

what you want

ACTIVITIES

74

ACTIVITIES

ACTIVITIES

Before Reading

While Reading

1 Read the back cover and the story introduction

noblemen owned *most/none* of the land, and

on the first page of the book. Answer these

the poor had *nothing/everything*. They had

questions.

easy/hard lives, *had/did not have* enough to

1 What are the 'Two Cities' of the title?

eat,

2 Where was the prisoner kept?

and *loved/hated* the King and his noblemen.

3 What is his daughter's name?

4 Who killed the Marquis?

5 What is 'the Guillotine'?

2 Can you guess what is going to happen in this story? Circle Y (yes) or N (no) for each sentence.

- 1 Lucie and her family will be killed. *YIN*
- 2 She will have secrets from her family. *YIN*
- 3 Lucie's father will be sent to prison again. *YIN*
- 4 He will make money from selling shoes. *YIN*
- 5 Revolution will change everybody's lives. *YIN*
- 6 Innocent people will die. *YIN*

3 Why do you think the French Revolution happened? Choose the best words to complete this passage.

In France in the *19th/18th* century *poor/rich*

Read Chapters 1 to 3, and then answer these word for these questions, and then answer them. questions.

What I How I Who

Who

- 1 ... died under the wheels of the Marquis's
- 1 ... brought a message for Mr Lorry on the Dover coach?
road?
- 2 ... did Gaspard travel to the Marquis's castle?
- 2 ... had brought Lucie back to England as a small

3 ... did Charles Darnay feel about his French child?

family?

3 ... owned the wine-shop in Paris?

4 ... happened to the Marquis?

4 ... sat in the wine-shop, knitting and watching?

5 ... was in love with Lucie Manette?

5 ... thought his name was 105, North Tower?

6 ... did Sydney Carton ask Lucie to remember

6 ... was the prisoner at the Old Bailey trial?

always?

7 ... looked very like the prisoner at the trial?

7 ... did Darnay tell Dr Manette on the

8 ... had taken care of Lucie since she was a child?

morning of his marriage to Lucie?

Read Chapters 4 and 5. Choose the best question-

8 ... effect did this news have on Dr Manette?

76

77

ACTIVITIES: While Reading

ACTIVITIES: While Reading

Read Chapters 6 and 7. Who said this, and who

3 But Defarge explained that he had found a

or what were they talking about?

paper written by Dr Manette in the Bastille,

4 The paper told a story of the

1 'They have left his body hanging in the village

Evremonde brothers,

square.'

5 The people were so angry to hear of

2 'It takes time to prepare for change.'

these crimes

3 'It's all the same.'

6 After the trial, Sydney Carton went to the

4 'Friends and citizens! We are ready!'

Defarges' wine-shop,

5 'He'll take good care of my old bones.'

7 Madame Defarge did not want to stop

the

killing

8 Dr Manette could do nothing to help Darnay

6 'I know where to find

him.'

9 Carton,

, had a plan,

7 'Now I, too, have been

Solomon

Pross.

buried alive.'

6 Barsad refused to help Sydney Carton in

Read Chapters 8 and 9. Are these sentences true

any way.

(T) or false

7 Mr Lorry was planning to stay in Paris for

(F)? Rewrite the false sentences with the correct

some time.

information.

Read Chapters 10 and 11. Match these halves of

1 Dr Manette was in danger

sentences, and use the linking words to make

in Paris.

a paragraph of nine sentences. (Use each word

2 Madame Defarge was very afraid

once.)

of Lucie.

3 Darnay was in a Paris prison for more

and I because I because I however I that I until I

than a year.

when I where

4 Not many of the prisoners were sent to the

I which I

Guillotine.

who

5 John Barsad's real name was

1 Darnay appeared before the Tribunal a second

ACTIVITIES: While Reading

ACTIVITIES: While Reading

time,

10 had caused the deaths of four members of a

2 Dr Manette heard that *he* was one of the accusers, family.

11 his mind had returned to the past.

12 he was accused by three citizens.

13 he kept to himself.

14 he heard Madame Defarge talking about her

family.

15 he read it aloud to the Tribunal.

16 he spoke angrily to the Tribunal.

17 they said Darnay must go to the Guillotine the next day.

18 all the Evremonde family were dead.

Before you read Chapters 12 and 13, can you guess the answers to these questions? The titles of the

chapters are:

A change of clothes

The last goodbyes

1 Who is going to change clothes, and why?

2 Who will be in the coach leaving Paris tomorrow?

3 What will happen to Ernest and Teresa Defarge?

4 Who is going to say 'their last goodbyes'?

79

78

ACTIVITIES: After Reading

ACTIVITI

3 On the morning of his marriage, Charles Darnay

ES

talked to Dr Manette. Put their conversation in the right order and put in the speakers' names.

After Reading

Darnay speaks first (number 5).

1 Can you remember who's who? Match the

1 'Very well, then. Who are you?'

characters to their descriptions.

2 'Dr Manette, you look so pale! Does this name hold memories for you?'

the

Lucie Manette

3 'Yes, I remember. But *must* you tell me?'

killer

of the

4 'Are you sure, Dr Manette? When I spoke the name, I thought you had seen a ghost.'

5 'Dr Manette, we said I would tell you my real name on the morning of my marriage- you remember?'

6 'Some things are best kept secret,

Jarvis Lorry

Marquis

that's all. But come, we must go- my

Madame

once a prisoner in the

daughter is waiting.'

Defarge Dr

Bastille a lawyer

7 'There are many ghosts in my past, Charles.

Miss Pross's brother

But I

Manette

the doctor's daughter

Charles

am quite sure. The name means nothing to me.'

an old friend of the

Manettes a good

knitter

the Marquis's nephew

ACTIVITIES: After Reading

in London? Tick one box each

time.

PARIS

LOND

ON

Ernest Defarge

D

D

D

Jarvis Lorry

r-

Sydney Carton

LJ

CJ

Lucie Manette

D

D

Dr Manette

D

D

Jerry Cruncher

D

Gaspard

D

D

Mr Stryver

LJ

D

u

the Marquis of Evremonde

n

D

n

Gabelle

2 Which characters spent most of their lives in Paris, and which

8

'My name is Evremonde, and since my uncle died, I have been the Marquis of Evremonde. But I am not proud of this name, and I will never use it.'

9

'No, no. No, not at all. I have never heard the name before.'

10

'Yes, I must. I cannot marry your daughter without telling you who I really am.'

11

'Yes, I promise. But why must it be a secret?'

12

'Then may I tell Lucie, too?'

13

'Evremonde!'

14 'No! Promise me, Charles, that you will never tell
Lucie, or anyone else, that your name is Evremonde.'

81

80

ACTIV/T/ES: After Reading

ACTIVITIES: After Reading

4 Writers like Dickens often repeated words, or

6 Before Charles Darnay went to France to help
used words with opposite meanings, in the same
Gabelle, he wrote a letter to Lucie (see page 38).

sentence, for effect. Match these parts of

Find the best word for each gap and complete his
sentences from the story and complete them with
letter.

the best words.

My dearest wife,

1 It was the best of times,

I am for France very soon. I

go, because

2 It was the spring of hope,
old servant Gabelle
my help.

3 It was the season of light,
When read this, I

4 It was a strange message,
be on my way. I did tell you before, I

5 It is a far, far better thing that I do, than I have
knew you worry. I promise I will to you when I
ever done;

, to let you know I am .

6 and a
answer.

Take of yourself and little Lucie, and

7 it is a rest that I go to, than I have ever
father.

known.

Your loving , Charles

8 it was the of times.

9 it was the season of

7 Is *A Tale of Two Cities* a good title for this story?

10 it was the of sadness.

Here are some other possible titles. Which do you like best, and why?

What other titles can you think of?

5 Now complete these sentences about the story

Revolution in

Charles and Lucie

in the same way, in your own words.

France To the

Dying for Love

1 Sydney Carton and Charles Darnay looked

Guillotine! Blood

The Shadow of the

very similar, but their characters ...

Bastille

and Tears

Enemies of France

A City of Terror

2 Life in France was easy for the rich, but it

was ...

ACTIV/T/ES: After Reading

ACTIVITIES: After Reading

3 When the Marquis killed a child, the child's

8 Do you agree (A) or disagree (D) with these
father .. .

sentences? Explain why.

4 The Revolution killed those who were guilty;

it also .. .

1 The Revolution was good for France in the end.

5 Miss Pross was a friend of Dr Manette's

2 Madame Defarge was right to want revenge
family, but

for what had been done to her family.

Madame Defarge ...

3 Sydney Carton was a better man than Charles

6 Charles Darnay loved Lucie and lived, but
Darnay.

Sydney

4 Love is the strongest power in the world.

Carton ...

83

82

ABOUT THE AUTHOR

ABOUT BOOKWORMS

Charles John Huffam Dickens (1812-70) was

OXFORD BOOKWORMS

born in Portsmouth, in England. His family were

LIBRARY *Classics • True Stories • Fantasy*

extremely poor. The worst time for Dickens was

& Horror • Human Interest Crime &

when his father was sent to prison because he

Mystery • Thriller & Adventure

owed so much money, and Dickens himself was

The OXFORD BOOKWORMS LIBRARY

sent, aged only 12, to work in a factory. He

offers a wide range of original and adapted

remembered this terrible time all his life, and

stories, both classic and modern, which take

later wrote about it in his novel

learners from elementary to advanced level

David Copperfield (1850). He then worked as a newspaper

through six carefully graded language stages:

reporter, and wrote his first novel, *The*

Stage 1 (400

Stage 4 (1400

Pickwick Papers

headwords)

(1837), which was very popular. In the next

headwords)

four years, he wrote *Oliuer Twist* and two more

Stage 2 (700

Stage 5 (1800

novels, which were all very

headwords)

headwords)

Stage 3 (1000

Stage 6 (2500

headwords)

headwords)

successful. He was now a well-known writer,

Although Dickens spent many hours a day

writing, he also

whose stories, like *A Christmas Carol*, appeared

had time for his large circle of family and

in monthly magazines. In *A Tale of Two Cities* friends, writing for magazines, and for helping (1859), he showed his great interest in history, people in trouble. He felt strongly and in *Great Expectations* (1861) he wrote about the differences between the rich and the poor, that everybody should be able to live in freedom. As he grew which he had experienced himself in his own early life.

More than fifty titles are also available on a class library and using cassettes, and the cassette, and there are many titles at Stages 1 to answers for the activities in the books.

4 which are specially recommended for younger learners. In addition to the

introductions and activities in each

Several other series are linked to the OXFORD

Bookworm, resource material includes

BOOKWORMS LIBRARY. They range from

photocopiable test worksheets and Teacher's

highly illustrated readers for young learners, to

Handbooks, which contain advice on running

playscripts, non-fiction readers, and unsimplified

texts for advanced learners.

older, he worked harder than ever, continuing to

Oxford Bookworms

Oxford Bookworms

write, and giving public readings of his works in

Starters

Factfiles

Britain and America.

Oxford Bookworms

Oxford Bookworms

Playscripts

Collection

There have been hundreds of books, films and plays about Dickens' stories. He is often called the greatest English novelist of all time, and his characters and their sayings have become so real to us that they are now part of our language and part of our everyday life.

LIBRARY can be found on the next pages.

84

85